

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Terrill Wayne Woods et al.

Examiner: Ruth Ilan

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For: SUSPENDED DRIVE AXLE AND AGRICULTURAL TRACTOR WITH SAME

Moline, IL 61265

4 September 2003

Preliminary Amendment

Mail Stop Patent Application

Commissioner for Patents

P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, VA 22313

In the Claims:

1. (Original) An agricultural tractor comprising:
 - an engine;
 - a transmission driven by the engine
 - a drive axle driven by the transmission, the drive axle including a central housing having left and right drive output members, left and right axle housings movably coupled to the central housing for vertical movement of the left and right axle housings relative to the central housing, left and right axle shafts rotatably carried by the left and right axle housings and left and right universal joints drivingly coupling the left and right drive output members to the left and right axle shafts respectively; and
 - left and right wheel and tire assemblies coupled to the left and right axle shafts respectively.